

## **Dragon Boat Meeting** **held on 9th February in St Andrews Hall at 7.30**

**Present:** Steve Speake (in chair), Geoff Skein, Berrie Skein, Ali Cook, Ana Organ, Lynn Warneke, Julie Metcalfe, John Thompson, Linda Rose, Rhonda Fey, Lois Quast, Heather Constable, Deb Bates, Barry Warneke, Elizabeth Wood, Katrina Moullae

**Guest Speakers:** Steve and Mary Ann Holt from 'Adelaide Survivors Abreast'

**Apologies:** Heather Bailey, Kathy Speake

The meeting began with John Thompson introducing guest speakers, Steve and Mary-Ann Holt from the Adelaide Survivors Abreast Dragon Boat Racing Club. Steve explained that their club consisted mainly of older paddlers seeking expertise, fitness and fun through safe practice.

Mary-Ann offered a simple beginning for a club in Mannum as has already been done at Wallaroo. By registering under their umbrella as members of their club for an initial period of perhaps 18 months to 2 years, it will give us time to work out our intentions with no constitution required but conducting matters through their rules with our own personnel.

The BDSA fees for rural members from 1st Jan to 1st July will be \$84 with a concession rate of \$78 for members over 67 years. This also covers public liability insurance.

On top of this would be the Club Fee of \$50 per person which will be retained by our club for initial expenses.

Other advantages would be the provision of another boat together with some paddles and PFDs — the immediate access to Dept of Rec & Sport grants (which for a new club would not be available for 12 months from formation) and also training/learning sessions at the club at West Lakes FOC (free of charge).

It is also possible to have instruction for sweeps and coaches in Mannum by arrangement. Expenses for Sweep training and Coaching can be team expenses and covered from funds generated from the \$50 club fee or club fundraising. (ASA Dragon Boat Racing Club use the Community Raffle for fundraising).

Country clubs include:

- Wallaroo Copper Coast
- Pt Lincoln
- Streaky Bay
- Goolwa
- Murray Bridge

Steve Speake asked for clarification on requirements pertaining to non-competitive paddling and also the use of PFDs in the Murray. This information will be checked and forwarded on. Also a query on what needs to be done for sweep training.

Mary-Ann explained that paddles are available through ASA and the cost could be covered by grants: Fibreglass \$175, Typhoon \$235, DBV Fibre \$110 or Carbon \$220. Steve Speake expressed a preference that initial training be conducted with wooden paddles. Individuals would need to supply t-shirt, gloves, hat, water bottles. Team must have first aid kit.

Finally, Mary-Ann encouraged people to attend the Masters Games in Murray Bridge in April to get a better idea of the sport. Information will be sent to John Thompson. Information sheets left for our use will be duplicated and made available through the secretary.

John Thompson thanked the guest speakers and made a presentation to them on our behalf.

On their departure, the secretary, Deb Bates, clarified the business from the last meeting and proceeded to confirm the acceptance of Steve Speake as chairman, Rhonda Fey had declined the nomination as treasurer and this position was filled by joint treasurers Lois Quast and Heather Constable. Their first task, almost immediately, will be to open an account of which they will be two of the signatories in the name of Mannum Paddle Steamers Dragon Boat Club.

etc Deb. I guess you have the rest.  
meeting dates, next practice, etc